

Iowa Collaboration for Youth Development Council

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Jessie Parker Building
510 E. 12th Street, Starkweather Room
Des Moines, IA

September 28, 2016

Present:

John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas, 4-H Youth Development
Jim Hennessey, Child Advocacy Board
Gary Niles, 3rd Judicial District Juvenile Court Services (by phone)
Julie Hibben, Iowa Department of Public Health, for Kathy Stone
Steve Michael, Department of Human Rights, for San Wong
Jay Pennington, Department of Education

Results Team:

Kile Beisner, CJJP
Dave Kuker, CJJP
Betsy Penisten, NYTD Coordinator/Former SIYAC Coordinator

Others Present:

Andrew Dunn, SIYAC Chair
TJ Foley, SIYAC Chair Emeritus
Lexi Konig, SIYAC Coordinator
Sonia Reyes-Snyder, Office on Latino Affairs

I. Introductions and Announcements

Steve Michael welcomed those in attendance at 2:06 p.m. Introductions were made. Julie Hibben arrived at 2:11 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. Approval of the Minutes from June 22, 2016 ICYD meeting

The minutes were not discussed when a quorum was present and therefore, were not approved.

III. State of Iowa Youth Advisory Council (SIYAC) Update

a. New Coordinator – Lexi Konig

Michael introduced Lexi Konig, AmeriCorps Staff and recently hired SIYAC Coordinator.

Andrew Dunn reviewed past efforts to develop position papers on sexual orientation conversion therapy, tanning beds for minors, sexual assault bill, and radon testing in schools. These topics will be continued this year.

A meeting was held with the Iowa Department of Public Health's "Iowa Council for Youth Success" regarding student eligibility in extra-curricular activities for minors who have been



charged with possession. The effort is to create statewide standards and policies. SIYAC is looking at holding a youth forum in the fall; it is still in the planning stages.

b. Membership to ICYD

Michael discussed adding SIYAC as part of the ICYD membership. Due to the lack of quorum, the matter will be further addressed at the December meeting.

IV. National Youth in Transition Database (NYTD)

Betsy Penisten provided information on the NYTD initiative that collects information on foster care youth at ages 17, 19, and 21. The survey focuses on six different areas and is required by the Chafee Act funding through the Department of Human Services. Requirements include collecting information on 90% of youth who were in foster care. She plans to coordinate youth engagement initiatives to assist youth throughout the transition process. The project begins October 3rd.

V. Juvenile Reentry Implementation Project

Dave Kuker reviewed the implementation of the juvenile reentry project which focuses on delinquent youth exiting the State Training School for Boys. The purpose is to provide a structure that will insure better success for youth returning from out-of-home placement. The work involves building supports for youth—transfer of school records/credits; workforce preparation; counseling; medication, etc. Several state departments/agencies are involved. The project will also expand to youth in Psychiatric Medical Institutes for Children (PMIC's) and group care.

VI. Student Achievement Gap

Michael reviewed that the purpose of the agenda item was to align efforts, collaborate with ICYD agencies, and identify what is/is not working.

John-Paul Chaisson-Cardenas provided information on three key goals for ISU/4-H Development—Reversing the “brain drain” in rural Iowa; closing the achievement/opportunity gap; and improving college/career readiness. ISU is investing \$1.5 million over the next two years and is looking for partners. Chaisson-Cardenas distributed brochures on core principles and data. He noted the number of 4H staff across the state who are dedicated to serving youth in Iowa via out-of-school program delivery. He added that these after school programs help youth in literacy, math, citizenship, leadership, arts, and communications. 4H also works with non-profits and school districts to provide content and support and partners with schools to provide FFA, science, and STEM classes. 4H can help mobilize volunteers and assist with curriculum development.

Discussion included the following presentations:

- Dave Kuker reported on the overrepresentation of minority youth in the juvenile justice system. Kuker reviewed current efforts related to reduce the number of referrals to juvenile court for low-risk youth. He, again, reviewed the juvenile reentry project for youth returning from out of home placement to their home community and school. Efforts are in place to coordinate services from various state and local agencies to provide supports to these youth.



- Jay Pennington reported on Department of Education efforts to develop a statewide plan to meet ESSA (Every Student Succeeds Act) requirements.
- Jim Hennessey provided information on youth in foster care and the CASA program. He noted rates of placement for various racial and ethnic groups compared to white youth. Advocates are being trained on youth transition issues and ways to prepare youth who are aging out of the system.

A common theme focused on the achievement gap for minority and low income youth. There was consensus to refer the matter to the Results Team which will develop a list of initiatives across agencies for further discussion at the next ICYD meeting. The ICYD Council will provide further consideration on strategies to align efforts.

VII. Other Business

There was no other business.

VIII. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Rinker
Administrative Secretary
Div. of Criminal & Juvenile Justice Planning
Iowa Department of Human Rights